DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Just now the hon. Minister said that there were shortages. But he is not coming out with the figures as to how much quantity of wheat has been contracted and how much wheat has arrived. Sir, everybody in the House knows that whenever we import wheat, we don't get good quality wheat. In our country different qualities of wheat are introduced. We always pay more price for imported wheat. I would like to know whether the Government intends to import wheat. If so, how much quantity of wheat are they going to import? At what price are they going to import it? I would like to know how much quantity of wheat has already arrived. I would also like to know whether it has been seen that its quality is good.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA Sir, this supplementary is not directly related to this question. But I would like to inform the hon. Member that 15 lakh tonnes of wheat has been contracted for import. This is Australian wheat from the Australia Wheat Board. It is on the way. Seven lakh tonnes of wheat has already arrived and 3.5 lakh tonnes of wheat is likely to arrive by the end of July. The remaining 4 lakh tonnes would come after the monsoon is over.

Cases of reduction of liability of drug companies

*244. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND .FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific instances of reducing liabilities of drug companies for consideration by his officers have been brought to his notice;

(b) if so, the steps taken to inquire into those irregularities and action taken against the concerned;

(c) who are the officers involved and what action has been taken against them; and

(c) the details of irregularities which have been brought to his notice, giving the complete liability worked out earlier and the liability reduced in each case?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BAR-NALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

डा. वाई मक्ष्मी प्रसाद: सभापति महोदय, 29 जुलाई, 1994 को इसी सदन में एक रेखांकित प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया गया है। यह उत्तर यह है कि:

"The liabilities in 70 cases amounting to Rs. 2S6.2 crores have been worked out till date and communicated to the companies. Out of the total liabilities in amount of Rs. 18.27 crores has been recovered from 29 companies. The balance amount is yet to be recovered. Recovery of Rs. 174 crores is involved in the proceedings before the court."

मै आपके माध्यम से आदरणीय मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह जो 174 करोड़ रूपये की बाकी रकम सरकार को दी जानी है, यह वसूल की गयी है या नहीं?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, the main question is totally different. The question is:

"Whether specific instances of reducing liabilities of drug companies for consideration by his officers have been brought to his notice."

His supplementary does not relate to this question.

डा. वाई. लक्ष्मी प्रसाद: सर, यह इसी से संबंधित है। कंपनीज की जो लायबिटीज है, उस लायबिटीज की रकम को कम करने के लिए क्या मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने काम किया है, यह मूल प्रश्न है। इसलिए मौलिक उत्तर में यह देना पड़ेगा।

श्री सभापति: आपने कहा है कि "Whether specific instances have been brought to his notice."

इसका जवाब उन्होंने दिया है, नो सर।

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Sir, if this amount is not going to be recovered, would it not amount to reducing the liability? This is a very important point. Is the Minister planning to recover this amount? If he is not planning to recover this amount, it would amount to reduction of liabilities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is, "Whether specific instances of reducing liabilities have been brought to his notice".

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Exactly, Sir. If you don't recover the dues, that is reduction of liability.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But the question is, "Whether specific instances have been brought to his notice." He says, "No instances have been brought to his notice".

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Sir, I would like to put a specific question. Now Rs. 174 crores are due. It this amount is not going to be recovered, if this amount is going to be written off, would it not amount to reduction of liability?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: There is no intention to write it off. Our effort is to recover whatever amount can be recovered.

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Which are the major companies from whom these dues are to be recovered?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: That will require a specific question.

SHRI SANJAY .DALMIA: This is a specific question. There is Rs. 174 crores liability. Most of these are foreign companies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, if you knew the company you could have written the name of the company. You are asking here whether specific instances have been brought to his notice. Up till now, there were no instances. You are now drawing it to his notice. For that he says he requires notice.

SHRI MD. SALIM: Officers are not bringing it to the notice of the Minister.

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: So then, I have the assurance that this liability will not be written off. Can I have that assurance?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: That is right. Our effort will be to recover the monay and not to write it off.

Transfer Policy in Respect of Teachers of Navodaya Vidyalayas

*245. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that teachers of Navodaya Vidyalayas are entitled to request transfer only once during their service-period; and

(b) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. However, a second request transfer is also considered in respect of female employees in cases occasioned by marriage/transfer of spouse.

(b) The Executive Committee of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti decided that an employee of the Samiti be given only one opportunity for request transfer throughout his tenure in order to minimise the disruption of teaching/ learning process particularly in view of the residential nature of Navodaya Vidyalayas.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Sir, I am glad to know one thing that the hon. Minister has gone half way to meet the basic requirement of socialistic pattern of society, particularly, in the field of education by giving one chance to lady teachers only. I think only confining to one chance for transfer is unrealistic and rather counter-productive. So, may I know whether at least some minimum requirment of a tenure of, say, 3—5 years will be quite sufficient for asking for any